

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 26

Short Title: Workers' Comp/Approval of Disputed Legal Fees. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Watford and Zachary (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Judiciary I

January 30, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF DISPUTED LEGAL FEES BY THE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 97-90(f) reads as written:

"(f) The Commission shall hear and determine any dispute between an employee's current and past attorney or attorneys regarding the division of a fee as approved by the Commission pursuant to this section. Before ordering the division of a fee under this subsection, the Commission shall give notice to each of the employee's current and past attorneys of the total amount of the fee approved by the Commission for division between those attorneys. An attorney who is ~~a~~an interested party to an action under this subsection shall have the same rights of appeal as outlined in subsection (c) of this section."

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to claims pending on or after that date.

